

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

USDC SDNY
DOCUMENT
ELECTRONICALLY FILED
DOC #: 10/26/2021
DATE FILED: 10/26/2021

Grimes, *et al.*,

Plaintiffs,

—v—

CBS Corporation, *et al.*,

Defendants.

17-cv-8361 (AJN)

ORDER

ALISON J. NATHAN, District Judge:

The Court has set a tentative date for trial in this case on July 5, 2022. The Southern District of New York has reconfigured courtrooms and other spaces in its courthouses to allow jury trials to proceed as safely as possible during the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the protocols implemented in response to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Southern District is scheduling all jury trials through a centralized calendaring process, giving priority to criminal trials.

Though the Court will make every effort to try the case at the currently scheduled date, it cannot guarantee that a jury trial in this matter will be able to proceed as scheduled. Accordingly, the parties are hereby ORDERED to meet and confer and submit a joint letter by November 15, 2021, informing the Court of whether, in the event that this case proceeds to trial, all parties consent to a bench trial before this Court. If either party does not consent to a bench trial, the parties shall advise the Court that they do not consent, but without disclosing the identity of the party or parties who do not consent. The parties are free to withhold consent without negative consequences.

If the parties do not consent to a bench trial, the Court will request a jury for July 5, 2022,

consistent with the protocols implemented by the Southern District.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a final pretrial conference will occur on June 21, 2022 at 3:00 PM.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: October 26, 2021
New York, New York



ALISON J. NATHAN
United States District Judge